

TOWN OF EGREMONT, MASSACHUSETTS
MEETING OF THE SELECT BOARD
MINUTES

Date: October 2, 2020

Time: 1:05pm

Place: French Park
Egremont

Present were Chairman George McGurn, Vice-Chair Lucinda Fenn-Vermeulen(arriving late), Board member Mary Brazie, Allison Dixon(Housatonic Valley Association), Mike Jastremski(Housatonic Valley Association), James Noe(Road Superintendent), Bill Tynan(Conservation Commission), Marj Wexler(Green Committee), Jasoon LaForest(Police Chief), Emily Eyre(Green Committee).

It was announced that the meeting is audio recorded.

The Board voted unanimously to award the bid for the Creamery Road paving project to the low bidder, LB Corporation of 5 bids received: Best Paving \$135,400.00, Northeast Paving \$143,885.00, LB Corporation \$130,322.25,HMA Contracting Corp \$162,047.00, Palmer Paving Corp \$143,190.00.

Those present reviewed with the representatives from Housatonic Valley Association (HVA) the Egremont Road-Stream Crossing Inventory and Map to determine which of the crossings should be a priority for design funding through grants that HVA will help to obtain.

The Board adjourned the official meeting at 1:39pm and Chairman McGurn and Vice-chair Vermeulen left the meeting. The rest of the gathering continued its work to answer the following italicized questions.

Which structures regularly flood the road?

Inventory Document Structure #6 located on Shuntoll Road Map 2C

The Town of Egremont has experienced flooding issues with this crossing multiple times in the past few years. Flooding occurs primarily during a significant rain event, especially if the rain event occurs in winter. Private property near the crossing also floods. This crossing was indicated as a minor barrier for aquatic connectivity. Funding for replacing this crossing is needed.

Inventory Document Structure #8 located on Blunt Road Map 3C

The Town of Egremont has experienced flooding issues when beaver are present in this area, which has not been the case in the past two years. Inlet area and the property upstream is subject to ponding and flooding. When the beaver are active, this crossing becomes a major maintenance concern, requiring almost daily attention. The culvert is in need of replacement. Ponded area downstream was excavated for dry hydrant.

Has water over the road or other crossing failure blocked access for Town residents to essential services, such as Fire/EMS? If not, are you aware of any crossings where failure would block access for essential services?

Inventory Document Structure #4 located on Millard Road, Map 2C

If this crossing failed, it would prevent access to approximately a dozen homes. There is no alternative access to the properties beyond this crossing.

Inventory Document Structure #5 located on Mill Road, Map 2C

Inventory Document Structure #6 located on Shuntoll Road Map 2C

Both of these crossings are located on the stream that begins at Prospect Lake. If both of these crossings were to fail, there would be no access to about thirty (30) homes on Shuntoll Road.

Which structures require regular maintenance, such as sediment, debris and/or ice removal?

Inventory Document Structure #6 located on Shuntoll Road Map 2C

When the beavers are active, this crossing presents an almost daily maintenance issue.

Which crossings are slated for replacement in the next 1, 2, and 3 years?

Inventory Document Structure #4 located on Millard Road, Map 2C

Replacement due in the next few years. Also poses an emergency access concern.

Inventory Document Structure #5 located on Mill Road, Map 2C

Replacement due in the next few years. Also poses an emergency access concern.

Inventory Document Structure #18 located on Mount Washington Road, Map 4C

The Mount Washington Road Project is currently in the engineering phase with construction anticipated to occur within 4 – 5 years. This project will include the replacement of this crossing, identified as a “Severe Barrier” for aquatic connectivity.

Are there any additional Road-Stream Crossings identified that need to be assessed?

One identified during the meeting.

In summary, the following crossings are the Top Priority Crossings for Replacement in Egremont

Inventory Document Structure #8 located on Blunt Road Map 3C

Due to the issues experienced by the town as well as it being a significant barrier for aquatic connectivity, this crossing was identified as the crossing for which a preliminary design will be completed.

Inventory Document Structure #6 located on Shuntoll Road Map 2C

Town needs to replace this crossing due to the flooding experienced. However, funding is needed to assist with replacement. If the Town of Egremont completed a hazard mitigation plan this could help provide an avenue to receive some funding for replacement due to it being identified as a flood risk by the UConn Flood Risk Analysis which has also been evident in the Town’s experience.

Inventory Document Structure #4 located on Millard Road, Map 2C

Replacement due in the next few years. Also poses an emergency access concern.

Inventory Document Structure #5 located on Mill Road, Map 2C

Replacement due in the next few years. Also poses an emergency access concern.

Inventory Document Structure #18 located on Mount Washington Road, Map 4C

The Mount Washington Road Project is currently in the engineering phase with construction anticipated to occur within 4 – 5 years. This project will include the replacement of this crossing, identified as a “Severe Barrier” for aquatic connectivity.

Gathering broke up at 2:02pm.

Mary Brazie,

Office Administrator

minutes.20/apr21

The recording of the minutes is on record at the Town Hall for 90 days. Anyone who wishes to may obtain a copy or listen to the recording at Town Hall. Attachments are on file at Town Hall.